



Rochdale Early Advantage Charter School

Minutes

REACS Board Meeting

Date and Time

Monday October 25, 2021 @ 6:30 pm

Location

via Zoom Online Meeting Platform

Directors Present

C. Williams (remote), L. Hamer (remote), R. Wilson (remote), M. Anglin (remote), S. Brown (remote), L. Stephens (remote), K. Sandiford (remote)

Directors Absent

Ex Officio Members Present

C. Rice (remote)

Guests Present

Dr. Claytisha Walden (remote), Sylvia Fairclough-Leslie (remote), Tawanna Muniz (remote)

• Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

L. Hamer called a meeting of the board of directors of Rochdale Early Advantage Charter School to order on October 25, 2021, at 6:34 PM

C. Williams made a motion to Approve Agenda.

R. Wilson seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

C. Approve Minutes

R. Wilson made a motion to Approve Minutes from September 27, 2021.

M. Anglin seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

- **Business & Operations Report**

- A. **Mrs. Tawana Muniz**

- STUDENT DATA DASHBOARD:**

- UNIVERSAL PRE-K STUDENTS – 36
 - K-8 STUDENTS – 443
 - SPED STUDENTS – 62
 - ELL – 10

- ENROLLMENT: 2021 - 2022**

- A total of 553 applications are on our waitlist.

- 8 seats to fill

- 2-K seats
 - 1-2nd grade
 - 1-4th grade
 - 2-7th grade
 - 1-8th grade

- COMPLIANCE/FINANCE:**

- Audit and Call completed.
 - Preparing reports for the NYC Authorizer Accountability Conference due 11/1.
 - Financial and Cash disbursement reports were sent to the board.

- **School Leader Report**

- A. **Mrs. Sylvia Fairclough-Leslie/Dr. Claytisha Walden**

- General Information:

- DOE generates recommendations for renewal short-term or long-term (not a candidate for non-renew, good). Goes onto Board of Regents agenda meeting. February, March or April meeting next year.

- EQ 1: Trend comparison to CSD, 2019 data
 - EQ 2: Organization and operations, do we see systems and structures are in place to make sure the school is using that data (From admin, to teachers, to the students- how does data get used?)
 - Enrollment and retention of special populations
 - Financial liability long term and short term (any flags)
 - Board: How often do they meet, quorum, their involvement/knowledge, how they make decisions/allocate.

- Important Dates:

- The Community Notification letters of REACS Renewal were sent to families.
 - **Pre-Call Before Visit w/Laurie occurred Thursday, Oct 21, 2021 to confirm the schedule for next week's visit.**
 - **October/November/December Visit:** To begin- Leadership Team Meetings (SEO members will also be there). Then same day or next day Classroom Observations (virtual or in person)
 - **Public Hearings:** TBD on virtual/in-person, will reach out in September to coordinate
 - **Board of Regents Decision - March/April/May**

- 2021-2022 School Year Update**

- COVID-19 Impact
 - One Positive Covid case, a scholar tested positive. She was not in school for several days before being diagnosed so it didn't trigger any closer.
 - We are still working on minimizing the sound levels in the Middle School classes in the gym.

Discipline

- Developing a PBIS system to reward scholars' leadership
- Demerit System for scholars who require redirection
- 2 seventh graders were suspended for fighting in class

Assessment

- Summer Data
- Chart of Scholars I-Ready results comparing EOY 21 to BOY 21 (Attached)
- Beginning of Year iREADY (BOY) Administered September (Attached)
- Initial Data was used to Determine individual achievement gaps and intervention plan.
- ANET schedule changed
- ELL Scholars were assessed using NYSITELL
- Intervention Plan
- Start Afterschool and Saturday School started the week of October 11th
- Focused Instructional Groupings
- Interventionist working with identified scholars during the day

Enrichment Activities

- Wednesdays during the school day
- Young Peoples Chorus of NYC for scholars Grades 2-8 will begin 10/27
- Chess TBA
- LEAP - Arts Enrichment will begin 11/3
- After School Mondays
- Pretty Brown Girls will begin 11/1
- **Financial Literacy will begin 11/1**

2021 Staffing

- **Pending REACS COVID Vaccine Mandates we continue to face a** continued substitute shortage has a huge impact on our schools
- Teacher vacancy
- TA vacancy - Filed pending clearance
- School Aide vacancy

We continue to adjust daily to provide coverages. We are now adjusting to compensate teachers for missing their preps.

- **PTO Report**
 - A. Shinequa Brown**

Good evening executive board, parents, guardians, caregivers, school leaders, and staff. The PTO held our October meeting on Wednesday, October 25th and we had about 23 people in attendance.

At the beginning of our meeting, we informed everyone that we still have maroon face masks for sale; 1 for \$6 or 2 for \$10. We also asked everyone to encourage their scholars to be responsible in the handling of their devices.

The big focus of the meeting was on our current Popcorn Fundraiser. Brochure orders are still on going and will end on November 29th. Our first 4-day virtual popcorn event from October 4th through October 7th was a huge success, with sales totaling \$4,989; meaning we made a profit of \$2,494. We congratulated our three (3) 3 scholars who sold over \$1,000 each (Jahane, Navaeh and Averi). Gift cards will be given to each scholar who sells over \$1,000 during any of the 4-day virtual events; and if that doesn't apply then the two (2) highest sellers of that virtual event will receive gift cards. We want to incentivize our scholars/families to sell. Not to mention, at the December PTO meeting the three (3) highest brochure sellers plus the teachers or the highest selling class will be announced and receive gift cards as well. The next virtual event dates are November 9th through November 11th; and we will open one more in December (TBA) for everyone who prefers that method of ordering. Our first bulk brochure order will be soon so the final day to get the order forms completed will be October 25th and hopefully we will have the delivery in before Thanksgiving. We continue to ask that no monies be sent to school with scholars because we are utilizing Cash App to keep everyone a little safer. With the success of our fundraiser so far, our PTO bank balance is currently \$5,529.04(Cash Statement attached below).

As always, our School Leaders addressed some concerns of parents (list attached below). Parents were told that scholar P-EBT funds should be loaded towards the end of November, however, REACS has no control over when it will be available. Families were asked to speak with their scholars about proper behavior on the buses and following the rules. They addressed the questions regarding the staffing changes; parents were informed that due to the vaccine

mandate staff altering had to occur and the parents of those particular classes with changes were notified.

To end the meeting, we asked everyone to stay tuned as we come up with possible ways to give back to our REACS community for the holidays and gave a synopsis of the events to come in the next 30 days (Character Day, Asynchronous Day, Veteran's Day, Report Cards and PTC), as well as informed every one of the Mobile Vaccination Van that will be in the school parking lot this week from 10am to 6pm with the Pfizer Vaccine.

- **CEO Report**
 - A. **Bishop Calvin Rice**

Maintenance/Facility and new Construction:

We are still awaiting AG approval to move forward with M & T Bank.

I have visited four job sights of prospective contractors and requested bids from in the event we are unable to use our original contractor due to the requirements of M & T Bank. I have received two bids thus far which are two and three million above our budget. The most competitive and bid is one pending from Acisco Construction who is trying to adapt their bid to our 6.5 million budget.

Acisco have built to facilities for Success Academy one of which I visited last week.

I am working to get DOB approved material to reduce the noise level of the four temporary classroom on the gym floor. Because of the supply limits due to COVID it has been difficult acquiring the amount of material need.

I submitted two names for consideration for REACS board membership, Mr. David Barron a licensed architect and Mr. Mitchell L. Walker, Deputy Director for NYC Administration for Children I would like to know the disposition of these candidates.

There will be a mobile vaccination unit in the parking lot this week administering the Pfizer vaccine to eligible candidates. I am in negotiations to have on site vaccination when FDA approval is granted for kids under twelve.

Governor Hochul restored a Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$40,600.

- **Finance Report**
 - A. **Mrs. Marcia Anglin**
 - No meeting for the month of October; next meeting is scheduled for November (bi-monthly).
- **Academic Accountability Report**
 - A. **Mrs. Chene Williams**
 - Met via Zoom on 10/19/21 @ 6:30 pm.
 - Highlights from the meeting: The renewal process and board interviews for the school.
 - Discussed data analysis of reading and math.
 - Need analysis for entire school.
 - Discussed instructional focus to close gaps.
 - Curriculum review is under discussion.
 - Scholar incentives.
- **Personnel Committee Report**
 - A. **Mrs. Kamala Sandiford**
 - Met 10/19/21 via Zoom online platform.
 - Current staff covering vacancies due to the COVID mandates.
 - Spanish teacher vacancy (today).
 - Looking to meet all current vacancies.

Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
R. Wilson

The meeting was adjourned for executive session.
In executive session the charter renewal processed was discussed with Nora Clancy.